



## BELL TELEPHONE WON

A watchnight service will be held in the Baptist church tomorrow night beginning at eleven o'clock. The leader will be Mr. George Nightingale. Sanitary Officer Turnbull leaves tomorrow on a three-week trip to the east. During his absence from the city he will visit Toronto and Ottawa besides other cities.

A meeting to arrange for the formation of a Caledonian society in Strathcona will be held this evening in the Oddfellows' hall. All interested are invited to attend.

The private C. F. R. car **EAST-CLIFFE** with Solicitor A. R. Creelman, of Montreal, and three daughters, arrived by the afternoon train yesterday and proceeded to Edmonton.

Miss Sheppard was a passenger to Red Deer this morning.

Robert Ritchie, of the Edmonton

**Dominion Government Said To Be Considering Advisability of Scheme.**

an explorer. It is to map these polar regions in detail. Once this task shall have been accomplished, it is regarded as "land grabbing" nations will begin their "appropriations," meaning what is regarded as territory under the sovereignty of the Dominion.

The claim of Canada to these northern islands, extending as they do in an arc from the North Pole to a portion of the continent to the North Pole, is regarded as secure, according to the principles of international law. The necessary information received here, the details of which will be arranged by Surveyor-General Deville. It is expected that the surveyors will be occupied in the north four months of the year. The ships are dispatched to the north every summer in order to bring supplies and secure the necessary topographical data. The islands there have already been confirmed by the Dominion Geogra-

The following officers for the coming twelve months have been elected by the Loyal Orange lodge of Leduc: W. M., Albert Armstrong; D. M., John McColman; recording secretary, Jas Mundy; financial secretary, H. H. Fisher; treasurer, W. G. Lowry; chaplain, W. H. Stonehouse; lecturer, J. A. Ker; deputy lecturer, Hugh Bratton; D. of C., M. Hagen; committed men, S. Ecker, W. Mundy, J. R. MacDowell, C. McColman, W. McColman, I. G. J. McDowell, O. G., W. McColman.

[illegible]

## In the Race for Canada's Trade

LONDON, Dec. 30.—The *Black Caucus* of Berlin publishes an inflammatory article in its issue of today, in which it dwells on the difficulties of the German Government in dealing with the Canadian Government. It regrets that not the slightest reference is made to Canada in the German press in connection with the commercial arrangement with Britain until the end of 1909, which has just been signed. "If we continue our present policy in regard to Canada, our commercial relations with Canada," it remarks, "we run the risk of being left behind by the other nations of Europe in dealing with this thriving country, which contains almost inconceivable possibilities of development." The interests of Germany, it says, are imperilled, and it must urgently that the German government shall now do something towards renewing German-Canadian commercial relations.

## W. B. Canham of Clover Bar Coal

before Magistrates Delcher and Wilson a young man named Wesley R. Denman, son of J. J. Denman, formerly manager of the Edmonton Coal Co., and now manager of the Clover Bar Coal Co., appeared on a charge of obtaining money to the extent of \$12.67 from the Bitulithic Co. by false pretences. It is alleged that this was done by issuing weight bills from the office for greater weight for coal lots than that shown when the loads were weighed at the city scales.

Mr. Robertson, counsel for the defendant, elected to be tried summarily but this course Crown Prosecutors

The ticket he received from the weigh scales in the case in question showed 4,300 lbs. and Mr. Denman gave tickets from the office for 4,300 lbs. He took the load of coal to the Bitulithic and Contracting Co.'s works near the Saskatchewan bridge.

A number of tickets were produced and the witness stated that in his opinion they were all in the handwriting of the accused. He had previously stated, however, that he was not an expert in handwriting, so Mr. Robertson took objection to his evidence upon this point.

Cross-examined by Mr. Robertson, the witness said he had hauled coal for the company from July till October. He had weighed coal once at the mines, but did not remember the date. On that occasion there was a difference in weight between that of

difference in weight between that at the mine and at the city scales. He had known the Edmonton city scales to weigh more than the scales at the Humberstone mine. He sometimes gave the ticket at the office to the stenographer, but the only ones he got back wrong were from the accused. These differences in tickets have been made ever since last spring, when W. R. Denman came up here.

Witness admitted that he had a row with W. R. Denman, which lasted over two days. As a result of this he had quit work. A number of others had rows too. The teamsters accused Denman of trying to cheat them out of money in coal being hauled to Fort Saskatchewan. The disagreement was fixed up with a man named Harper, who was travelling manager. This was the only witness heard during the morning session. At 12:15 the case was adjourned till two o'clock.

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We have several lines of Forks and Spoons, which we wish to clear before stocktaking, and have priced for quick sale. They include A1 plate and include such standard and well known patterns as Carlton, Stewart and Joan. This is an opportunity. Take advantage of it.

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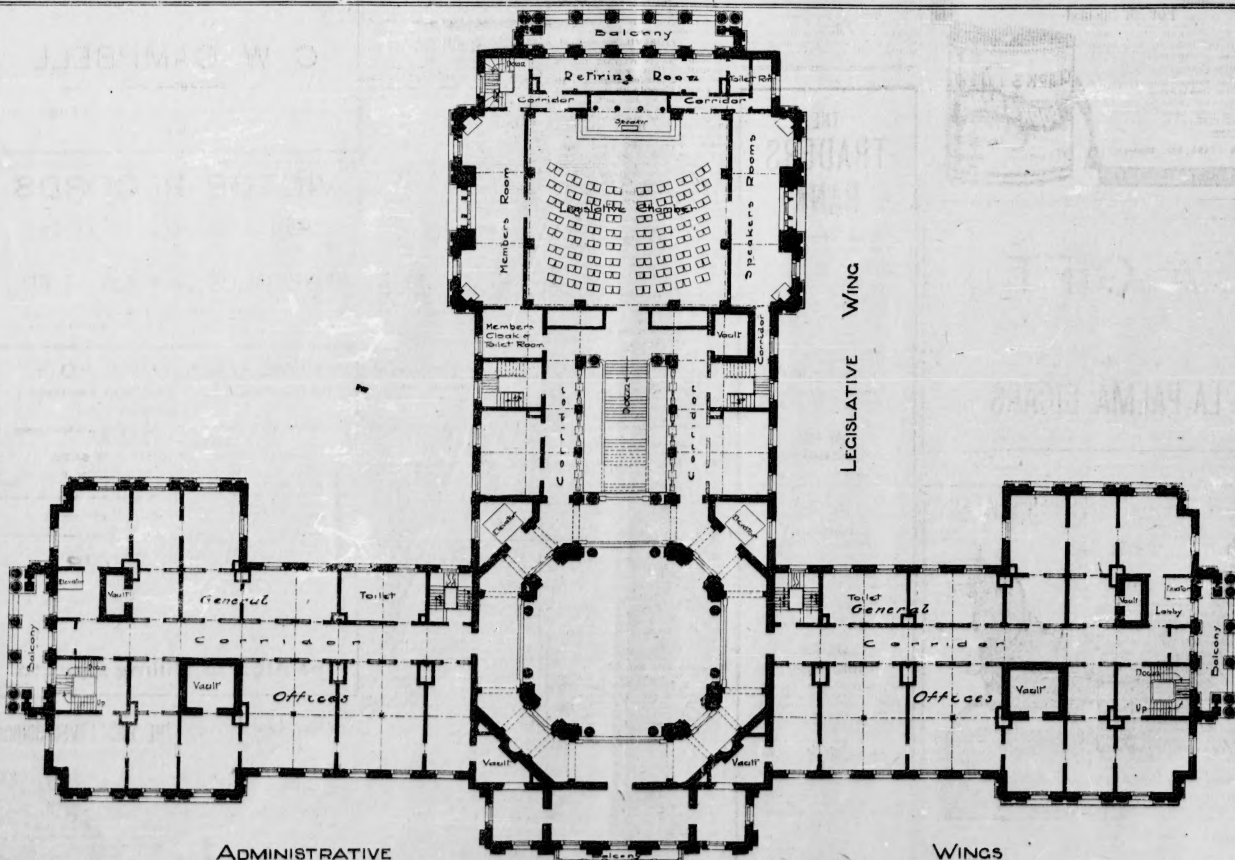
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## NORTH BATTLEFORD IN GRIP OF FIRE FIEND

Third of Series of Fires Occurred on Sunday Doing \$150,000 Damage—Insurance Does Not Commence to Cover Loss—Investigation Pending

North Battleford, Sask., Dec. 29.—On Friday morning, December 27th, at seven o'clock, the first of the series of three fires was discovered in Percy Marshall's livery barn, occupied by Mr. F. Allen. The fire originated in a board fence surrounding the yard at the rear of the stable, and spread to other inflammable matter had been deposited in the vicinity. The fire is generally supposed to have been of incendiary origin.

On the following night fire was again discovered in J. R. Chisholm's lumber office. The fire was discovered, however, too late to ascertain the cause. The building was valued at \$6,000 and the contents, consisting of kiln dried lumber, shingles, saws, doors and moldings, being valued in the neighborhood of \$25,000, including all his book accounts and \$40, which had been left in the till, were destroyed. It was found after the volunteer fire department had arrived on the ground that the hose which had been used for the purpose of flooding the skating rink had not been properly dried, the result being that although an adequate supply of water was to be had from the C. N. R. powerhouse, the department were helpless, only being able to bring the chemical engine into action after the fire had gained such headway that the building could not be saved. Owing to the hard labor of the citizens and the South Battleford fire brigade, the contents of the lumber yard proper were saved. The South Battleford brigade made a record run notwithstanding the difficult road, and were on hand in time to render material assistance.

On Sunday at five o'clock, Mrs. A. E. Fox, wife of the manager of the Bank of Commerce, was aroused by the cries of a petulant child, and discovered a bright light shining in the front window. She hurriedly called Mr. Fox, who turned in the first alarm. Ringing up central and getting no response, he ran to the street calling "Fire!" The alarm was then taken up by Mr. Allan, of Pickett and Johnson. He rushed to the fire hall reporting the fire to Mr. French, who thus gave the first general alarm. Mr. Fox occupied Mrs. E. F. Chisholm's house, next door to the Bank of British North America, and one door north of the block occupied by J. H. Haywood, gun's furnishings, where the fire is supposed to have originated. Mr. Haywood's store was completely destroyed, including all the contents, the value of the stock being \$12,000, partially covered by \$6,000.

insurance. The second storey of this building was occupied by customs and considerable Canadian express and government mail, which were stored there in bond, were destroyed. At this juncture the fire brigade, after considerable trouble and delay caused by frozen hose, arrived and the water was turned on from the Canadian Northern roundhouse.

### Brigade Worked Hard.

The brigade did splendid work and succeeded in confining the fire to one block. The fourth Battleford fire brigade again responded to the alarm, but arrived too late to be of much assistance. Notwithstanding the efforts of the firemen the fire got out of the firemen's fire and spread to the building occupied by the Saskatchewan-Battle River Land and Development Company. This building was owned by Mr. J. W. Norton, president of the company, and valued at \$10,000, insured \$2,000. The company lost documents to the value of \$100,000. Mr. Norton's personal loss to private papers being 25,000. Mr. A. P. Panten, barrister, occupied offices on the ground floor of this building, his total loss amounting to \$1,000, on which he carried no insurance.

Mr. Panten lost all his documents of title, most of his suit and collection files, but the majority of his record books were saved. Mr. Boyd Simpson, of the Saskatchewan-Battle River Land and Development Company, was occupying living rooms over the office. Simpson, who was a sound sleeper, was not awakened until the fire had gained considerable headway, in fact for fear of his presence in the building. Archie Humphord, night porter of the Clarendon Hotel, happened along at the time and broke in the back window of Mr. Simpson's sleeping apartment, arousing him. Mr. Simpson escaped in his night clothes, with his feet and one leg slightly burned.

### Saved to Restaurant.

The fire spread to the frame building on the ground floor of this building, which took place in the restaurant, said to be caused by kerosene, badly cracked the walls of the adjoining building recently erected by J. A. Gregory, mason. This building was a fireproof structure and stopped the fire on the south side with damage of about \$9,000. The fire then spread north to Mrs. E. F. Fox's house, occupied by Mr. E. F. Fox, manager of the Bank of Commerce. Mr. Fox's furniture was badly damaged, the loss amounting to about \$800. Insurance amounted to \$120. Earl & Keith, law officers, and the Bank of British North America, were the next to suffer. The law firm, as well as the bank, saved all their books and papers. The building belonging to Chisholm's estate, was totally destroyed, value \$6,000, insured to the extent of \$17,000. Wm. Kennedy, printer, who had a light plant, was damaged to the extent of \$500. Pickett & Johnson, merchants, also lost about \$400 by hot baking. All the glass in front of the store

across the street covered by insurance. The mayor and council held a meeting on Sunday afternoon and are seeking authority from the attorney-general to hold an investigation.

### Agreement Ratified.

Montreal, Dec. 29.—The directors of the Amateur Athletic Federation of Canada met here tonight and ratified the arrangement made with Col. Harry Williams and the C. A. A. U. relative to the Canadian representatives at the Olympic games in London next summer. It was also decided that the federation would conduct the investigation itself.

### FATHER AND SON DIE.

As Result of Burns Received in Ottawa Fire.

Ottawa, Dec. 29.—P. X. Dolores, and little son, Alexander, were burned to death in their home on Nelson street Saturday night. Mrs. Dolores upon a lamp and the flames spread immediately, she rushed the two young children into the street, and returned to alarm her husband and the other three children, who were upstairs in bed. The flames barred the way, but her cries soon awoke everyone but her husband, who died shortly after the flames extinguished the blaze. The little fellow succumbed to his injuries in the hospital.

### As Result of Earthquake.

Hanburg, Dec. 29.—The shareholders of the Trans-Atlantic Fire Insurance Co. have voted to go into voluntary liquidation on account of the fact that more than half of its capital was lost by the San Francisco fire and earthquake.

Yaucoy, B.C., Dec. 29.—McGowan, forty, and Kenneth Matheson, 30, were drowned in seven feet of water while crossing a more covered beam at Rock Bay, a hundred miles up the coast on Friday.

Distinguished Englishman Here. Ottawa, Dec. 29.—Lord Maitland, who as Sir John Breckinridge, was a member of the Balfour government, arrived here this morning on a visit to Earl Grey.

### Tried to Dump a Postmaster.

Toronto, Dec. 28.—Because Samuel Case, a husky young native of Gananoque, tried to throw the postmaster into the canal and throw his son's dog in, he says he left home. But he admits that he stole a forlorn overcoat valued at \$70, and it was so that charge that he was arrested. He had just raised nine dollars on it at a York street store.

In the hockey match today the Ottawa Victorias beat Beaufort 4 to 1 in the first of the two games to decide which shall challenge for the Stanley cup.

### DEATH OF OWEN MCKAY.

Owen McKay, of Leduc, who was brought in on Saturday morning to the Albermarle Hospital, died last night. The deceased who was 37 years of age and leaves a wife and five young children. The body was taken to Moffat's mortuary, and will be forwarded this afternoon to Leduc.

### HEIR TO TWO ESTATES.

Sudden Wealth for a Wisconsin Heir. Marinette, Wis., Dec. 29.—From an obscure real estate man such a worthy heir to an English nobleman and one of the heirs to a fortune estimated at \$100,000,000, the Alaudine like record of George Northedge, of this city. For years he had lived with his wife, who was formerly Lady in waiting to Queen Victoria, on a housestead on Little Port Lake, in the wilderness of northern Wisconsin. An advertisement for the son of Colonel Northedge, U.S.A., in the Chicago Tribune, brought out his identity. He is the sole heir to an estate of \$1,500,000 in Montreal and one of seventy-five heirs to a bigger English fortune. He is now Sir George Wilhelm Northedge, 10 years of age, and has never been in England. Born in Canada, he as well as his father, served in the Union army in the civil war, and both were wounded. His wife, when she thought she was dying some years ago, told how she had left Queen Victoria's court rather than marry the man her parents chose for her. She recovered the next day. Northedge has family records tracing his ancestry back to 1590.

### VISITATION FROM JOSS.

Chinese Woman in Pittsburgh Died From Excess of Opium.

Pittsburg, Dec. 29.—San Foon Wah, the only Chinese woman in Pittsburgh, dropped dead at the home of her cousin here late last night. It is thought she had indulged excessively in opium which affected her heart. Her sudden death was followed by a panic among several Chinese who were in the room and who were terrified by what they considered a visitation from Joss, their god.

### Press Woman Dead.

Regina, Sask., Dec. 28.—Word was received here today of the death of Mrs. H. H. Marshall, at 81, of Regina. She was a well-known member of the Canadian Women's Press Association and under the name of "Sandy Grant" wrote a number of books. She was a Scotch dialect. The remains of the deceased, who was long living, were received here today.

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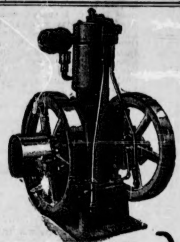
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